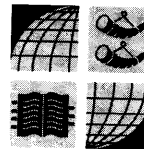


THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

PROFESSOR BRENDA COSTALL BPharm PhD DSc  
HEAD OF SCHOOL  
PROFESSOR OF NEUROPHARMACOLOGY

Mark B McClellan, MD, PhD, Commissioner  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville  
MD 20854, USA



UNIVERSITY OF  
BRADFORD

25.7.04

Dear Commissioner McClellan,

**Re: Crestor (rosuvastatin). Petition for withdrawal by Public Citizen**

I write to offer my suggestions on the above petition, and also on the recent response by AstraZeneca rebutting this proposal.

I contend that the issue with this product lies not with the molecule but with its **dosage range**, as the side effect profile of statins is known to be dose dependent.

Studies show that 2.5 mg of Crestor reduces LDL-C 40%, and just 1 mg reduces LDL-C by 34%, on average. (1)(2) These doses are far stronger than the standard initial doses of Pravachol, Mevacor, Zocor, and Lescol. Indeed, the lead author of one study stated: "Even at 1 mg/day, rosuvastatin reduced LDL-C by 35%, the same percentage reduction seen with simvastatin [Zocor] 20 and 40 mg. (2)."

**Proposal**

- A. Withdrawal of Crestor tablet strengths higher than 10mg, with this becoming the maximum daily dose.
- B. The 5mg dose to become the usual starting dose for all patients
- C. Further investigation of the clinical usefulness and safety profile of lower doses of Crestor (1mg and 2.5mg).

It could be that such a compromise, to encourage lower doses rather than higher ones, would be seen as the "Wisdom of Solomon" in what must be a difficult situation for you to adjudicate upon.

Yours sincerely,

Dr John Blenkinsopp MB ChB BPharm MRPharmS  
Principal Research Fellow, School of Pharmacy

1. Olsson, AG, Pears, J, McKellar, J, et al. Effect of rosuvastatin on low-density lipoprotein cholesterol in patients with hypercholesterolemia. American Journal of Cardiology 2001;88:504-508.
2. Olsson, AG. A new statin: a new standard. The American Journal of Managed Care 2001;7:S152.

PROFESSOR B W BARRY  
BSc PhD DSc FRPharmS CChem FRSC  
PROFESSOR OF PHARMACEUTICAL TECHNOLOGY

PROFESSOR A F FELL  
BPharm PhD FRPharmS FIOA CChem FRSC  
PROFESSOR OF PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY

PROFESSOR P YORK  
BPharm PhD FRPharmS CChem FRSC  
PROFESSOR OF PHYSICAL PHARMACY

PROFESSOR H CHRYSTYN  
BPharm PhD MRPharmS  
PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL PHARMACY

PROFESSOR R C ROWE  
BPharm PhD DSc FRPharmS CChem FRSC CPhys MinstP  
PROFESSOR OF INDUSTRIAL PHARMACEUTICS

PROFESSOR B J CLARK  
MSc PhD CChem FRSC  
PROFESSOR OF PHARMACEUTICAL ANALYSIS

PROFESSOR J NAYLOR  
BPharm PhD DSc FRPharmS  
PROFESSOR OF PHARMACOLOGY